53. 29—A—Civil Engineering—Communication Original

Mr. V. K. Aravindakasha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I rise to move for an addition of of Rs. 13,225 under 29—A—Civil Engineering-Communication Original. The contingent expenditure for the office of the Assistant Engineer, Post-war Division, (Roads) comes to Rs. 13.225. This sum includes a provision of Rs. 3,000 towards purchase of furniture. Rs. 5,000 for survey and investigation charge and Rs. 3,000 for the purchase of stationery, drawing stationery and printed forms. There is no provision for Post war dovelopment schemes in the current year's budget. An additional allotment of Rs. 13,225 is necessary under 29-A-Civil Engineering-Communication-Original.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* With regard to Post-war Reconstruction Road division, I should like to know whether any scheme has been brought in and whether any work is already taken.

Mr. V. K. Aravindakasha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The Post-war road scheme is a part of an All India Scheme in which it has been decided that the condition of roads all over India should be maintained on certain standards. There was a conference in Cawnpore of the Chief Engineers of different administrations and they decided that certain standards of roads have to be kept up and we have received copies of those decisions. In that they have divided roads into 2 or 3 distinct classes of which we are interested in are two namely the National Highways and the Provincial roads. The National Highways are those in our State as at present proposed Shanmukham Ernakulam Road and also the Vaniampara Road. These should have 40 feet road surface and 250 feet of road poramboke. The Provincial Roads should have 32 feet of road surface and 100 feet road porambokes. In order to make land plans and estimates, a separate division consisting of an Assistant Engineer and Overseers, etc., for this work. This division is investigating and preparing estimates of these roads.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* The provincial roads, what are they and where are they situated in our State?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* In Trichur Taluk, the Kandassankadavu road, Kunnamkulam Road and Karupadanna road. In Talapalli Erumapetty and Palayannur apart from the Shoranur road. Similarly in the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk. The Hill Palace Road and the Udayamperoor road.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Kanayannur-Ezhuvas):* Whether the Vypeen Pallipuram road comes under any of these classifications?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No. It is a new road. These works are to be taken after the war and it is for this purpose we are preparing land plans and preparing estimates.

Demand put and carried

54. 29A—Civil Engineering—Communication—Original

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 10,000 under 29-A-Civil Engineering—Communication—original. The existing open drains on the Nelliampathy Ghat road cause inconvenience to traffic and hence it is proposed to convert these drains either into slabbed culverts or to be paved with retaining walls. I request the house to sanction this allotment.

Demand put and carried

55. 29-A-Civil Engineering—Communication

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I move for an additional allotment of Rs. 13,720 under 29-A-Civil Engineering—Communication—Original. The road leading to Chalakkudi Railway Station from the Shoranur Ernakulam trunk road has grown in importance due to the increased traffic of motor trucks and carts carrying timber. Hence the road required improvements such as widening, metalling, etc. The estimated cost of the works is Rs. 4,900. But including tender excess the total cost will come to Rs. 13,720. The work has already been taken up and the entire expenditure will have to be incurred this year itself. In order to meet this expenditure an additional allotment of Rs. 13,720 is necessary. I request the same may be sanctioned.

Demand put and carried

56. 29-A-Civil Engineering—Communication

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 11,000 under 29-A-Civil Engineering—Communication—Original. The Shan-

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mukham road in Ernakulam requires surface treating and it is proposed to apply a seal coat, using mosphalte, a tar product. The work is urgent and is proposed to be carried out this year itself. An estimate amounting to Rs. 11,000 has been prepared and sanctioned for the same. The necessity for the work was not foreseen and no provision was made for it in the current year's budget. So to meet the expenditure, an additional allotment of Rs. 11,000 is necessary.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Kanayannur-Ezhuvas):* May I know why this new road is very un-even in many places. All the Kickshaw people are put to great difficulty. Is there any difficulty to make it even?

Mr. President: The part relates to the Shanmukham road and not on the new road.

Demand put and carried

57. 29-A-Civil Engineering—Communication

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I rise to move for an additional grant of Rs. 16,465 under 29-A-Civil Engineering—Communication—Original. The work of improving the road from Chalakkudi to Kanjirapilli has been taken up and is nearing completion. An expenditure of Rs 12,663—2—1 has been incurred this year on account of this work and a further sum of Rs. 4,000 will be required for future payments to close the accounts. Since there is no provision for this item of work in this year's budget an additional allotment of Rs. 16,465 is necessary.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, some useful information may kindly be supplied. May I know whether this item of work is provided in the current year's budget?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* When was this work taken up?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* In 1119.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* An expenditure of Rs. 12,000 and odd has already been incurred this year.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes.

* **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* Mr. President, I am most unwillingly constrained to oppose this demand and move for its omission. It is a matter, Sir, which affects the powers of this House and negatives the very purpose for which the Legislative Council has been graciously granted by His Highness the Maharaja 20 years back. I will explain the position further. Here an amount of Rs. 16,000 and odd is asked for with the idea that we may vote for so much of expenditure. It was admitted, Sir, when I enquired that this is not an item of work that is provided for in the current year's budget thereby not giving this House an opportunity of going into the necessity or otherwise of that item of work. It is also admitted, Sir, in answer to a querry of mine that as much as Rs. 12,000 and odd have already been spent on this work—so much expenditure has already been incurred is the expression used in the Notes and Rs. 4,000 and odd remain to be paid hereafter. What is it that we understand from the Notes. Without obtaining the sanction of this House and expenditure of Rs. 12,000 has been incurred on the initiative of the Government on an item of work rightly or wrongly considered necessary by them. Regarding the necessity of this item probably we may not have any objection if asked for in proper time and we would have granted it. But that is not at all relevant to the issue. Now this is a clear instance of an huge amount being spent without our consent and this is not the solitary case either. I refer to princely amounts of 4 digits, 5 digits and 6 digits as many as 41 items, items 53 to 94 totalling up to 12 lakhs and more of rupees by way of supplementary grant asked for by the Hon'ble Member for Engineering. A part of the expenditure which is now sought for to be granted by the House has already been incurred. I respectfully submit, Sir, that this Council has been ignored by the process of spending money without consulting it and now after doing that requesting the House to grant the whole amount is adding insult to injury. I could respectly request all sections of the House and especially the ministerialist to seriously consider the implications and be pleased to act accordingly. I move that the grant be omitted. May I know, Sir, whether any member can speak on this motion after the Government Member states his case, for I find the Government Member is going to reply.

Mr. President: Any Hon'ble Member may speak.

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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